

WASHINGTON - U.S. Rep. Jo Bonner (R-AL) today announced the award of funding to the Calcedeaver Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department in Mount Vernon, Alabama, from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in cooperation with the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA).

The grants are being made available through USFA's Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program. The department received an \$83,101 grant to be used for the purpose of operations and firefighter safety in addition to an \$189,573 grant to be used for vehicle acquisition.

"I am extremely pleased this funding was approved for the Calcedeaver Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department," Bonner said. "Our first responders deserve the very best equipment, and I applaud DHS for providing this much-needed technology to improve their capabilities."

The Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program provides one-year grants to local fire departments to assist them in improving the effectiveness of their operations. The funding can be used for operations and firefighter safety programs, which includes training, equipment, personal protective equipment, wellness and fitness, and modifications to fire stations and facilities.

The vehicle acquisition funding can be used for pumpers, brush trucks, tankers, rescue vehicles, ambulances, foam units, and fireboats among other items.

